

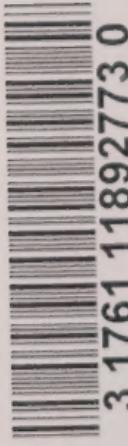
# Plumber

Ministry of Colleges and Universities  
Apprenticeship Training

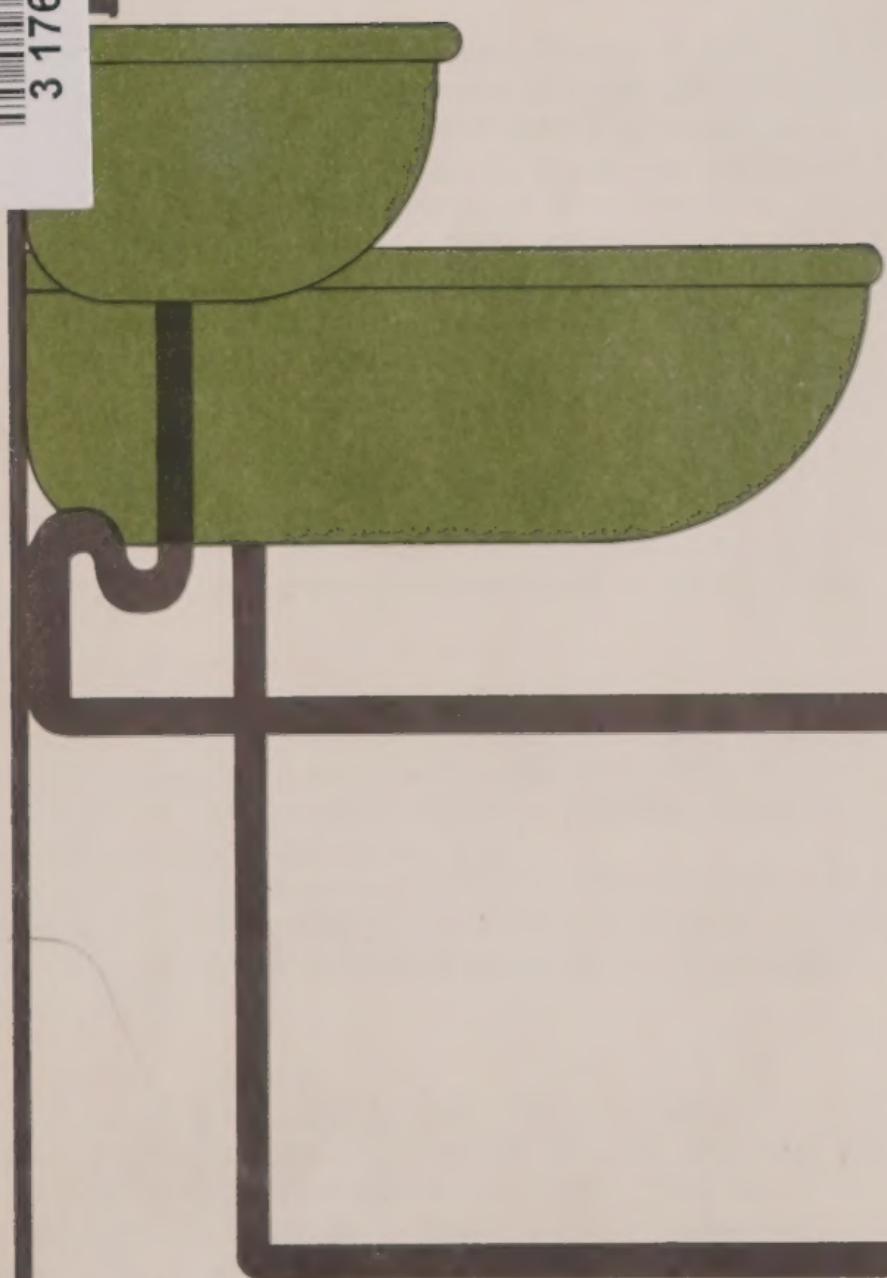
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As far back as the Roman era, men were engaged in working in lead for the installation of plumbing systems. Today, the journeyman is a well-trained person working with more sophisticated materials and in more complex systems.

Today's plumber contributes to a healthy living environment in the civilized world.

Apprenticeship training in this highly technical trade is available under the modernized industrial training program sponsored by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

During the life of the contract, the apprentice works under the supervision of skilled and experienced journeymen to acquire the skills to install, maintain and repair piping, fixtures and appurtenances for the supply and disposal of water used for domestic or industrial purposes.

### **Qualifications**

Applicants for apprenticeship must be 16 years or over and have a minimum of Grade 10 standing in an Ontario secondary school or an equivalent level of education. There are no maximum age limits for apprentices, but they should have an interest in mathematics, physics, hygiene, mechanics and blueprint reading.

### **Duties**

Plumbers are required to perform a wide range of duties including:

- installation, maintenance, repairing and servicing of pipe systems and plumbing fixtures;
- using power and hand tools for the cutting, bending, threading and fitting of pipe in various materials;
- layout of system for the conveyance of water, gas and air;
- using winches, jacks, hoists for the positioning of equipment and pre-assembled units.

## **Training**

Apprenticeship training for plumber tradesmen covers five periods of 1,800 hours each (equivalent to approximately 4 1/2 years), consisting of practical on-the-job training and related instruction at a college of applied arts and technology.

The related courses of instruction at a college are compulsory and include an eight-week basic course, an intermediate course of seven weeks and seven weeks of advanced instruction near the end of the apprenticeship contract.

## **Training Allowances**

During his in-school instruction, the apprentice's tuition fees, living allowance and travel expenses are provided by the Federal Department of Manpower and Immigration and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, under a shared-cost agreement.

## **Earning While Learning**

While training on the job, apprentices earn while they learn. Their wages are based on a percentage of those paid to journeymen in the same trade in the same shop. During the first year, they receive 40 per cent of the journeymen's rate, which increases to 50, 60, 70 and 80 per cent in each of the four subsequent periods.

At the conclusion of each 1,800-hour period, apprentices must receive the recommendation of their employer before proceeding to the next period of the contract.

## **Certificate of Qualification**

On completion of the five periods, apprentices must write a final examination. A mark of 60 per cent will entitle them to a Certificate of Apprenticeship. Apprentices obtaining a mark of 70 per cent or more will receive an inter-provincial Seal permitting them to practice in most of Canada's provinces.

A Certificate of Qualification issued by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities is necessary for workers in this trade. It is issued by the Ministry on payment of a \$10 fee, and must be renewed every second year on the birth date.

## **Employment Prospects**

The employment outlook for plumber journeymen is excellent. Once apprentices attain journeyman status, their individual abilities are usually the controlling factors in their advancement to foremen positions or ownership of their own business as master plumbers.

The increase of downtown redevelopment in major cities, the adoption of industrial parks and the construction of new homes and apartments is providing more jobs for experienced journeymen.

## **Enquiries**

All enquiries concerning apprenticeship should be addressed to the nearest district office listed on the back of this leaflet or to the Director of Manpower Training, Manpower Training Branch, Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1C2.

**District Offices**  
**Manpower Training Branch**

Barrie 728-3727	Ottawa 731-7100
Belleville 968-8671	Owen Sound 376-5790
Brantford 756-5197	Pembroke 735-0135
Brockville 345-0660	Peterborough 743-4172
Chatham 352-2800	St. Catharines 682-4313
Cornwall 933-6080	Sarnia 542-7751
Guelph 821-3770	Sault Ste. Marie 949-3331
Hamilton 527-9105	Stratford 273-1520
Kenora 468-3128	Sudbury 560-3440
Kingston 544-5400	Thunder Bay 577-5716
Kitchener 884-5460	Timmins 267-2420
London 453-7190	Toronto 965-4211
North Bay 474-5509	Windsor 254-8654
Oshawa 576-9171	



Ministry of  
 Colleges and  
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Manpower  
 Training  
 Branch

James A.C. Auld, Minister  
 J. Gordon Parr, Deputy Minister